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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 001361 TOSEC 250158

73
ORIGIN PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 USIA-15 INR-07 SS-15 NSC-05 CCO-00

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DRAFTED BY S/PRS:RLFUNSETH:HHB
APPROVED BY S/PRS - ROBERT L. FUNSETH
S/S-O: M. TANNER
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 001361 TOSEC 250158

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF DEPARTMENT DAILY PRESS BRIEFING,
FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 1976

FOR BARBIAN FROM S/PRS

PRINCIPAL SUBJECTS RAISED AT TODAY'S BRIEFING WERE: (1)
WHETHER USG WAS EXPRESSING ITS CONCERN TO PORTUGAL OVER
ITS PERMITTING CUBAN AIRCRAFT BOUND FOR ANGOLA TO BE
SERVICED IN THE AZORES AND WHETHER GUYANA HAD REPLIED TO
OUR DEMARCHE; (2) CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR STORY ALLEGING
U.S. WAS TRAINING AND SENDING MERCENARIES TO ANGOLA;
(3) STATUS OF AMERICAN YACHT DETAINED BY CUBA.

SPOKESMAN REPLIED TO QUESTIONS ON THESE SUBJECTS AS FOLLOWS:
1. CUBAN AIRCRAFT IN AZORES OR GUYANA: ON THE GENERAL
QUESTION OF SUPPORT OF THE CUBAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE IN
ANGOLA, WE WOULD MAKE SEVERAL POINTS -- FIRST, AS WE HAVE
STATED, WE STRONGLY OBJECT TO CUBA SENDING AN EXPEDITIONARY
FORCE OF OVER 5,000 SOLDIERS TO ANGOLA; SECOND, IT
FOLLOWS, THEREFORE, THAT WE EQUALLY OBJECT TO ANY COUNTRY
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ALLOWING CUBAN PLANES TO USE THEIR AIRFIELDS OR AIRSPACE

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FOR FLIGHTS CONNECTED WITH THIS ARMED FOREIGN INTER-
VENTION; THIRD, WE REITERATE THAT CUBA SHOULD WITHDRAW ITS
EXPEDITIONARY FORCE FROM ANGOLA; FINALLY, WE DO NOT WANT TO
GET INTO ANY DETAILS AT THE PRESENT TIME ABOUT ANY
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS WE MAY HAVE HAD ON THIS
SUBJECT.

2. MONITOR STORY ON U.S. MERCENARIES: RECALLED THAT
WHITE HOUSE, STATE AND DEFENSE SPOKESMEN HAD ALREADY
SAID THE STORY WAS NOT TRUE.

3. YACHT IN CUBAN WATERS: CUBAN AUTHORITIES HAD
RELEASED THE AMERICAN YACHT, VENTURER, AND ITS AMERICAN
FAMILY CREW, JANUARY 1 AFTER DETAINING IT ON DECEMBER 30
WHEN IT APPARENTLY ACCIDENTLY HAD SAILED INTO CUBAN
WATERS.

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Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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